

rule out pneumonia, inasmuch as in children it is the only way many times that the diagnosis of pneumonia can be definitely made early in the disease.

Dr. Langley Porter: I would like to call attention to one little point, and that is the value of rectal examination under anesthetic. It is easy to make and is very certain in the information given; it is of value when the radiogram is not to be had.

I doubt very much if any really competent observer will operate on a case of pneumonia in mistake for appendicitis. It is a difficult thing at times to differentiate, but with the blood count, rectal examination and examination of the abdominal muscles, there is little chance for error.

Dr. Judell, closing discussion: Dr. Rosenstirn's remarks in regard to fecal concretions sound very reasonable.

Dr. Behlow, in regard to the radiogram—we had several cases that were both pneumonia and appendicitis, and the danger has been that the mere fact of having a radiogram might throw out your diagnosis—you must have your mind centered on appendicitis as well as pneumonia.

Dr. Porter, we had one case in which the rectal examination was the determining factor in operation. In doubtful cases the rectal examination is of considerable importance.

6. Treatment of Diphtheria. G. E. Ebright.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Starvation Treatment of Diabetes. With a series of graduated diets used at the Massachusetts General Hospital. By Lewis Webb Hill, M. D., and Rena S. Eckman. With an introduction by Richard C. Cabot, M. D.; 131 pages. Second edition. Boston: W. M. Leonard. 1916.

The first edition of this book has been reviewed and what was said then holds for this edition. In this, the second edition, the author has simply added a number of case reports which undoubtedly add to the reader's interest.

Quantitative Laws in Biological Chemistry. By Svante Arrhenius, Ph.D., M. D., LL.D., F. R. S., Nobel Laureate, Director of the Nobel Institute of Physical Chemistry, Stockholm. London: G. Bell & Sons. 1915.

This small volume of 164 pages is founded on three Tyndall lectures given in the Royal Institute, London, in May, 1914. The necessity for quantitative studies is well crystallized in one of his introductory sentences: "As long as only qualitative methods are used in a branch of science this cannot rise to a higher stage than the descriptive one." Five chapters include the velocity of reactions, the influence of temperature thereon, the quantitative laws of digestion and resorption, chemical equilibria and immunization. Similar to his "Immunochemistry" the book contains many tables enumerating the results of observation and calculation as determined by various investigators as well as the author. The index is quite complete. The subject is one about which we know too little, for we have been too well satisfied with the qualitative side of things.

W. T. C.

The Aftermath of Battle. By Edward D. Toland. Published by the Macmillan Company, New York. 1916.

The writer has been next to the trenches, with the Harjes Ambulance Corps, in France. He has served, at different times, as orderly, nurse,

chauffeur and commissariat. He brings the reader right into the action: his descriptions are most vivid: his play on the emotions unusual. To commence the reading of the book means to finish it at a sitting. First, the presence of a few errors in punctuation and the misplacing of a word here and there must be criticized. One wonders at the significance of "septic pus," "stovane serum," "upper row of canine and molar teeth," "oral aphasia," etc., but Mr. Toland has been related to things medical only since his going to the front; and the service he has given in his various positions and the story he tells more than compensate for his not as yet having mastered the medical vernacular. The great lesson of the book to us is its appeal for preparation for war in the medical sense. Early in the war the writer found no scarcity of surgeons but a glaring lack of medical men and nurses who might serve in administrative capacities—so a want of all-important discipline, systematic assignment of duties, etc. J. H. C.

A Treatise on the Principles and Practice of Medicine. By Arthur R. Edwards, M. D., Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine and Clinical Medicine and Dean of the Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago. New (third) edition, thoroughly revised. Octavo, 1022 pages, with 80 engravings and 23 full-page plates in colors and monochrome. Cloth, \$6.00, net. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1916.

Professor Edwards in this third edition of his valuable text-book on medicine has, as usual, presented the student with a good up-to-date manual. New chapters are added on ictero-anemia, the ductless glands, X-ray findings, erythremia, sepsis (infection, toxemia, bacteremias), high calory-feeding in typhoid with a table of food values, sporotrichosis, blastomycosis, trichinosis, hook-worm disease, pellagra, gas poisoning, the arrhythmias and other cardiac neuroses, tropical splenomegaly and various other tropical affections. New material on the following is added: meningitis serum of Flexner and Jobling, Strong's work on amebic dysentery, Brill's disease, anaphylaxis, paratyphoid, blood cultures in typhoid and other bacteremias, the "carriers of infection," the recent epidemics of meningitis and poliomyelitis, vaccines, serotherapy, the spirachete as the cause of syphilis and the recent status of tuberculin in its diagnostic and therapeutic application, the diagnostics and therapeutics of cardiac failure, hypertension, diabetes, gastric and duodenal ulcer, constipation, drug additions, neuralgias, etc. Among the good points to be noted is the elaborate system of cross-references, eliminating much needless repetition, and the well-selected notes on treatment.

Comparison with the second edition reveals, however, a rather extreme attempt at condensation of the subject-matter and the introduction of a number of "tables of differential diagnosis." It is to be regarded as unfavorable to the value of the book that this effort for conciseness and brevity has brought it dangerously near to the class of quiz-compends, than which there is no type of text-book more undesirable.

It is to be hoped for that in the next edition of this deservedly popular treatise on medicine the author will amend this rather parsimonious style by replacing the two hundred pages of text by which this volume has been reduced. G. H. T.

Nitro by Hypo. By Edwin P. Haworth. Willows Magazine Company, Kansas City, Publishers. 1915.

An earnest appeal to the medical man for introspection and analysis. The chapters on Medical